THE HEALTH OF VENTNOR 1970

VENTNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

1970 -1971

Chairman - Councillor H.D.L. Lowe

Councillors

W.T. Burden, Esq.

G.F.J. Rendall, Esq.

Miss B.M. Roberts

Miss B.E.M. Saunders, M.B.E.

D.A. Stotesbury, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :-

D.W. QUANTRILL, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M.&.H., D.Obst.R.C.O.G.

Public Health Inspector :-

C.A.S. Watson, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk :-

Miss D. Tosdevin

Rodent Operative :-

Mr. R. Burt

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970

To the Chairman and Committee Members

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1970.

The birth rate (12.6) varied only slightly from the previous year (12.1) but the comparative rate (18.9) was still higher than for the rest of the country (16.0).

The illegitimacy rate was only 3.7% and this rate was well below the national figure (8%).

There were 138 deaths and the death rate 21.4 was slightly lower than the previous year (23.0). Once again stroke and disease of the coronary arteries were the main causes of death.

Measles was prevalent during the Spring of 1970 and a hundred and forty-six cases were notified, which must be one of the highest figures on record for this District. Fortunately, measles is now a comparatively mild infection and children are no longer excluded from school for two or three weeks. There is now a much more reasonable attitude to such infection and some children are back in class at the end of a week, provided they are well.

Housing continued to be an important part of the Public Health Inspector's duties and his ability to cope with the difficult task was again clearly apparent. Some applications for council houses were supported on medical grounds and although many of them were not accommodated, the Committee was most considerate in dealing with top priority cases. Unfortunately, the waiting list was still a long one and as elsewhere on the Island there is a need for more council houses to be built.

During the year there was considerable debate regarding the use to which the National Hospital site should be put. A municipal camping site was seriously considered but finally found to be unacceptable. It is hoped though that in the not too distant future a public camping ground will be established by Ventnor or one of the other Councils on the Island. Such a provision would ensure that there was a site with good standards of hygiene and sanitation in accordance with Council requirements. It would also help to solve

the problem of the itinerant camper who has not booked beforehand and who at the height of the season finds private sites full up and has to camp illegally on such places as the downs or the side of the road, fouling the ground and leaving litter about.

Ventnor was perhaps the only district on the Island that did not experience any significant problem as a result of the Pop Festival. However, this event did draw everyone's attention to the health problem of out-door events and the need for reasonable sanitation and good food hygiene at open air gatherings. In the past there has been an obvious need for improvement even at small local events. It needs to be emphasised that even charity organisations need to conform to reasonable hygiene standards but, of course, this does not mean army standards, as was suggested by some of the more prejudiced antagonists of pop festivals last year.

My thanks are again due to the staff of the department for their work and loyalty.

Finally, may I respectfully express to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee my appreciation of their support during the year.

Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS QUANTRILL

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	3,562
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1970) as per rate books	2,507
Rateable value as at April 1st, 1970	£270,167
Sum represented by 1 n.p. rate (1969-70)	£1,058

Meteorological Statistics, 1970

	Sunshine (hours)	Rain (inches)
January	43.03	5.06
February	121.08	3.25
March	144.05	2.75
April	156.06	3.03
May	148.06	1.38
June	279.05	1.51
July	241.08	2.20
August	209.03	3.32
September	195.04	3.27
October	130.07	1.23
November	68.06	9.11
December	64.08	2.03

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Ventnor U.D.C.	England and Wales
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)			6,450	
LIVE BIRTHS				
No. of live legitimate births ...	47	31	78	
No. of live illegitimate births	1	2	3	
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)			12.6	16.0
Comparative factor			1.50	1.0
Comparative Birth Rate			18.9	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			3.7	8.0
Stillbirths				
No. of legitimate stillbirths			Nil	
No. of illegitimate stillbirths			Nil	
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			Nil	
Total live and stillbirths ...	48	33	81	

DEATHS	M.	F.	Ventnor U.D.C.	England and Wales
Total number of deaths	71	67	138	
Crude death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			21.4	11.7
Comparative factor (deaths)			0.53	
Comparative Death Rate			11.3	
Infant Deaths				
Legitimate infants under 1 year ...	2	-	2	
Illegitimate infants under 1 year ...	-	-	-	
Legitimate infants under 4 weeks ...	1	-	1	
Illegitimate infants under 4 weeks ...	-	-	-	
Legitimate infants under 1 week ...	1	-	1	
Illegitimate infants under 1 week ...	-	-	-	
Infant Mortality Rates:				
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			24.7	18.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			25.6	17.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil	26.0
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)			12.3	12.0
Early Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)			12.3	11.0
Peri-natal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)			12.3	23.0
Maternal mortality (including abortion)				
Number of deaths			Nil	
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			-	0.18

Causes of death attributed to Ventnor residents were as follows:-

	Male	Female
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	3	2
" " , larynx	1	-
" " , lung, bronchus	2	-
" " , breast	1	1
" " , prostate	2	-
Other malignant neoplasms	3	6
Other diseases of blood, etc.	1	-
Other diseases of nervous system	2	1
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	2	-

DEATHS (cont.)

	Male	Female
Hypertensive disease	-	2
Ischaemic heart disease	19	11
Other forms of heart disease	3	6
Cerebrovascular disease	10	23
Other diseases of circulatory system	4	5
Influenza	2	1
Pneumonia	-	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	1
Asthma	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Peptic ulcer	2	-
Cirrhosis of liver	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-skeletal system	-	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
All other accidents	1	-
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	1
Total	71	67

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACTS, 1955

Number of samples taken during 1970	5
Number of samples found to be negative	5
Number of samples found to be positive for Tubercle Bacillus	-
Number of samples in which Brucella Abortus was isolated	-

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
received during the Year 1970

Ages	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Infective Jaundice
Under 1 year	2	-	-
1 and under 2 years	7	-	-
2 " " 3 "	10	1	-
3 " " 4 "	13	-	-
4 " " 5 "	23	1	-
5 " " 10 "	81	-	-
10 " " 15 "	7	-	-
15 " " 25 "	2	-	1
25 " " 45 "	1	-	-
45 years and over	-	-	-
TOTAL	146	2	1

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

VENTNOR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Salisbury Gardens,
Ventnor, I.W.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Ventnor Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

By courtesy of the Medical Officer of Health this part of his report is presented separately.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee for their help and support during the year.

In accordance with the wishes of the Committee the report has been kept to the statistical minimum required by the Department of Health and Social Security.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.A.S. WATSON

Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Work of the Public Health Inspector during 1970

Public Health Acts

Premises inspected on complaint	340
Nuisances observed	267
Revisits of all kinds	506
Visits to Holiday Accommodation	48
Visits to Caravans	21
Visits re Housing Accommodation	343
Visits re Water Supplies	32
Visits re Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	139
Visits re Drainage work	79
Visits to Licensed Premises	27
Routine visits	273

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

There are two caravan sites within the Urban District, the total number of caravans on the two sites being 35.

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Category	Food Premises Total No. of Premises	Fitted to comply with Reg.16	Regulation 19 Applicable	Fitted to comply with Reg.19
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4
Fishmongers	1	1	1	1
Butchers	5	5	5	5
Dairies	2	2	-	-
Greengrocers	5	5	-	-
Grocers	32	32	32	32
Cafes, etc.	42	42	42	42
Licensed Premises) Full Licence)	20	20	20	20
Fried Fish Shops	2	2	2	2
Hotels Licensed	36	36	36	36
Private Hotels	29	29	29	29
Guest Houses	60	60*	60	*

* only a limited number have been inspected

Section 16, Food Hygiene (General Regulations) 1960 relates to provision of personal washing facilities and Regulation 19 deals with the facilities for washing food and equipment.

Regulation 19 does not apply where no open food is handled.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16, Food & Drugs Act 1955

Registered for Ice Cream

Grocers	22
Confectioners	10
Kiosks	9
Fishmongers	1
Cafes	27

Registration for preparation of Sausages

Butchers	3

Registered for the preservation of food (by cooking)

Grocers	2
Fried Fish Shops	2
Fishmongers	1

Premises registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1959

Dairies	2

Unsound Food

The following food was surrendered for destruction:-

24 x 2lb. 3oz.	tins Tomatoes
30 x 15½ oz.	tins Irish Stew
48 x 16 oz.	tins Vegetable Soup
4 x 12 oz.	tins Lambs Tongues
3 x 3¾ oz.	tins Sardines
1 x 7 lb.	tin Processed Peas
1 x 7 lb.	tin Pineapple Pieces
1 x 2lb. 3oz.	tin Pate Suisse
1 x 1lb. 3oz.	tin New Potatoes
1 x 3 stone	Coalfish

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

Number of Food Inspections	52
Inspections of Food Premises	238
Walls and Ceilings repaired or redecorated	54
W.C. repaired or cleansed	2
Yards re-paved	2
Dustbins	15
Equipment, floors, sinks) Working surfaces etc.)	71

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of houses made fit by informal action 5

WATER SUPPLIES

(A) Public Supply

The Urban District is supplied with drinking water by the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority.

The water is chlorinated and treated and is not liable to Plumbo Solvency.

The sampling of the water is carried out at source, and otherwise by the Board and copies of the reports are supplied to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.

The total number of samples notified to the Public Health Inspector were as follows.

Total taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
79	71	8

(B) Private Supplies

Five properties have private water supplies, these are regularly checked, and periodical samples are taken to the Public Health Laboratories, Portsmouth, with the following results.

Total taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
12	6	6

PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS

Four Hotels, two schools and a Holiday Centre have private Swimming Pools which are regularly visited and samples taken.

Total taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
40	29	11

CHILDREN'S PADDLING POOL

Careful attention was given to this pool during the year and the daily frequency of chlorination increased as necessary to ensure complete coverage while in use.

Total taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
15	12	3

RODENT CONTROL

The number of complaints concerning rats or mice has remained practically as in previous years, many of the complaints are found to be concerned with a stray rat or mice infestation. The total number of visits by the Rodent Operative including routine visits was 2,914.

Contract Scheme

The number of premises participating in this scheme for Rodent Control is now 72.

Infestations

Complaints of insect pests were:-

Cockroaches	18
Woodlice	3
Fleas	5
Ants	6
Beetles	7
Flies	1
Bees	2
Wasp Nests	117

A charge of 37½ n.p. is levied in respect of each wasp nest destroyed.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection and disposal service is carried out by the Surveyor. A weekly collection of domestic refuse is maintained, and during the season a twice weekly collection of trade refuse is made from hotels and boarding houses.

Disposal is carried out by tipping on the outskirts of Wroxall. The tip is checked regularly by the Rodent Operative and has been treated when found necessary.

Spraying for flies is carried out during the summer months.

SEWERAGE

Sewer arrangements are as follows:-

Bonchurch at the Eastern end is served by (a) cesspools and (b) modern septic tank systems. One large holiday establishment has a private sewer outfall discharging below low water mark.

St. Lawrence in the west is partly served by modern septic tank systems and partly by discharge into a small sewerage works.

The Central area sewage is discharged untreated via a comminutor through an outfall below low water mark.

The Council operate a cesspool emptying service which has functioned very well during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Statistics have been supplied to the Ministry of Labour for the year ending December 31st, 1970 in accordance with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The details in the prescribed form (O.S.R.14) are as follows:-

TABLE A

Class of Premises	Number of Premises registered during year	Total Number registered at end of year	Number of General Inspections
Offices	Nil	19	1
Retail Shops	2	71	31
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	Nil	7	3
Catering Establishments open to the Public, Canteens	Nil	56	42
Fuel Storage Depots	Nil	3	1
TOTALS	2	156	78

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises	139

TABLE C

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	137
Retail Shops	319
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	29
Catering Establishments open to the Public	492
Canteens	20
Fuel Storage Depots	7
TOTAL	1004

Total Males 238 Total Females 766

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health:-

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	3	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	23	8	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excluding out workers premises)	-	-	-	-
	24	11	-	-